

The Public Safety Committee of the City Council for the City of Junction City met on Tuesday, November 17, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

PRESENT WERE: Chair, Steven Hitchcock; Councilor Randy Nelson; Councilor Bill DiMarco; and Sergeant Eric Markell.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

3. NEW HIRE, OFFICER ANTHONY CHRISTENSEN

Sergeant Markell informed the Committee that they hired Officer Anthony Christensen, who had started the day before. He had already started his training and will be going to the Academy in April, with his graduation date the Friday before the Scandinavian Festival. Sergeant Markell stated that he had hoped to have him at the next meeting for the Committee to meet him.

4. STATISTIC REVIEW

Sergeant Markell reviewed the different charts provided to the Committee with the statistics dating back to 2008, they showed; investigations, traffic citations, thefts, property crimes, burglary, DUII, and warrant arrests. He inquired as to if the Committee wanted the statistics for the fiscal year, calendar year, or both.

The Committee consensus was to include both on the charts for comparison.

5. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS REVIEW

Sergeant Markell discussed with the Committee ways they had been communicating with the public, such as; Facebook, the app, and Twitter. He also inquired as to how much information and how soon the Committee wanted to know different police activities.

The Committee consensus was to keep it how it's been and have emails sent to them.

6. VIPS – VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE

Sergeant Markell informed the Committee that the VIPS program would be in addition to the Reserve program already established. The VIPS program would be a way for citizens to get involved and give back to their community. It is managed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police which already had guidelines in place for this program. Some examples of what the volunteers would be able to help out with were; abandoned vehicles, in some places handicap parking, as well as city ordinances.

Councilor Nelson questioned if this would help with more community policing, which was one of the goals.

Sergeant Markell responded that he did feel that it would help reach that goal, with extra eyes and involvement in the community and being able to tell other citizens what's going on in the community. He also noted that the program can be tailored to what the city needs and what they would allow the volunteers to assist with.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A Citizen from the audience had a few items to discuss, one being regarding the VIPS program; stating that he had been an S-Cop for six years which he enjoyed. He felt that having a volunteer service is a great idea.

He also wanted to discuss the ordinance on dogs. He and his dog had been bitten the previous day by a dog that had gotten out of its fence. He felt that the rules weren't strong enough and were not being followed, which he would like the city to review.

The Committee consensus was to put it on the list to revisit.

Another citizen had concerns about vehicles, boats, and trailers being parked on the streets. He had submitted a comment form in July but the three of the ones reported were still in the same spot.

8. AGENDA FORECASTER

Sergeant Markell stated that most of the items had already been discussed. They would have an updated version of the stats, broken down in 2015 for the quarter as discussed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gina Moore
Admin Aide/Receptionist